

In the Claims

Please add new Claims 31-33.

A clean version of all the pending claims is submitted below:

- 1 1. A method of sending data from a transmit site to a receive site, the method comprising:
 - 2 dividing a transmit data stream having a first bit rate into multiple data streams with each
 - 3 of the multiple data streams having a bit rate which is lower than the first bit rate; transmitting
 - 4 each of the multiple data streams over a plurality of RF channels, wherein at least one of the RF
 - 5 channels serves a plurality of users; and recombining the multiple data streams at the receive site
 - 6 to provide a receive data stream having a bit rate equal to the first bit rate.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein data is sent from the transmit site to a plurality of receive sites.

- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein data is sent from a plurality of transmit sites to a receive site.

- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein each of the multiple data streams are packetized.

- 1 5. The method of claim 4 further comprising:
 - 2 establishing a plurality of virtual links over each RF channel between send and receive sites; and
 - 3 distributing packets over the plurality of virtual links in a controlled fashion.

- 1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the controlled fashion is via load balancing.

- 1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein the controlled fashion takes into account scheduling

- 1 15. The method of claim 5 wherein the virtual links are established via a MAC-layer process.
- 1 16. The method of claim 1 wherein the channels correspond to RF channels transmitted via a wireless signal path.
- 1 17. The method of claim 1 wherein the channels are carried over a CATV plant.
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- 1 18. The method of claim 1 wherein the transmit and receive data streams are carried over an optical fiber.
- 1 19. The method of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of RF channels are adjacent in frequency.
- 1 20. The method of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of RF channels are not adjacent in frequency.
- 1 21. The method of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of RF channels are provided as DOCSIS channels.
- 1 22. The method of claim 21 wherein each of the plurality of DOCSIS channels are compatible for use with legacy DOCSIS users.
- 1 23. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the channels which carries one of the multiple data streams also carries data used by at least one other user, wherein the at least one other user only uses that channel.
- 1 24. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the channels which carries one of the multiple data streams also carries data used by at least one other user, wherein the at least one

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- 3 plurality of RF channels, wherein each of the plurality of RF channels correspond to RF channels
- 4 carried over an RF cable and wherein each of the plurality of RF channels is provided having a
- 5 different carrier frequency.